



NEWS RELEASE  
*Office of the  
United States Attorney  
for the  
District of Nebraska*  
**Deborah R. Gilg**

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December 17, 2009

United States Attorney Deborah R. Gilg and the United States Marshal's Service announce the following information for the attention of the media:

**Event Triggering this Release:**

Today, John Jerome Bell, age 72, was sentenced by the Honorable Richard G. Kopf to time previously served, (Bell had been detained for several months pending disposition of the case), following Bell's conviction for failing to register as a sex offender. In addition to the prison term, Bell was ordered to be on supervised release for the remainder of his life and pay a \$100 Special Assessment.

Bell pled guilty to failing to register in the State of Nebraska after being convicted in California in 1998 of Lewd Act Upon a Child. Bell traveled to Nebraska and did not register as required by state law and the federal Sex Offender Notification and Registration Act.

**Name of Defendant:** John Jerome Bell

**AKA:**

**Age:** 72

**City of residence:** Lincoln, Nebraska

**Crime(s) Charged and Potential Penalty** (A CHARGE is merely an accusation and every defendant is presumed innocent until and unless proven guilty): Failure to register as a sex offender, 18 U.S.C. Section 2250. Penalties are up to 10 years in prison, a \$250,000 fine, or both, at least 5 years of supervised release and a \$100 special assessment.

**Specific Location of Alleged Crime:** Kimball, Nebraska

**Location of Arrest:** Kimball, Nebraska

**Alleged Dollar Loss/Type and Quantity of Drug:**

**Others Charged in Same Scheme:**

**Relevant Dates:**

**Date of Alleged Crime:** November 1, 2007 to November 1, 2008

**Federal Arrest Date:** April 29, 2009

**Date Complaint Issued:**

**Indictment Returned Date:** April 22, 2009

**Initial Appearance Date:** May 11, 2009

**Plea or Trial and Date(s):** September 18, 2009

**Sentencing Date:** December 17, 2009

**Next Court Hearing Type and Date:**

**Assigned Magistrate Judge:**

**Held without Bond, or Released from Custody:**

**In Continuous Custody Since:**

**Assigned District Court Judge:** Richard G. Kopf

**Initials of Assigned AUSA/Preparer of THIS Release:** SAR